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June 17, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: *In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 11-65).*

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Kentucky's fifteen Area Development Districts (ADDs) comprise a statewide network of multi-county planning and development organizations. They serve as forums, clearinghouses, technical centers, conveners for the region and provide continuity to projects during the transition of local elected officials. The ADDs strive to foster regional strategies, solutions and partnerships that achieve sustainable economic growth and improve the overall quality of life for the citizens of Kentucky. Unlike many other organizations structured along multi-jurisdictional lines, the ADDs have both federal and state statutory authority. As the ADDs mission is far-reaching, covering a broad range of topics we find it appropriate to submit our comments to the Federal Communications Commission regarding the AT&T and T-Mobile merger as we believe this merger is one that affects all our communities, many of which are located in rural areas.

Technology like that offered through the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile will play a critical role in creating jobs, economic growth, and spurring innovation. In order for Kentucky to build the strongest economic environment and attract and retain businesses we must welcome mergers such as the one between AT&T and T-Mobile, one which will provide many Kentuckians with fast and dependable broadband networks which will expand our infrastructure, promote job growth and boost innovation.

When you talk to us, you talk to all of Kentucky

KY Council of Area Development Districts

www.kcadd.org

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Kentucky ADDs would like to see our state fully participate in the digital age; therefore, we are strongly urging the Federal Communications Commission to approve this private sector solution to what is a growing national spectrum shortage. After the merger is approved, AT&T will invest \$8 billion of additional capital which is earmarked for infrastructure build out, much of which will take place in rural areas. Furthermore, after the merger is approved citizens across Kentucky will experience improvements in service quality, with more reliable connections and fewer dropped calls. Additionally, once the merger is complete the combined company will be able to expand and upgrade existing wireless networks. These state of the art networks will enable Kentucky residents to make use of advanced distance learning, telemedicine, and e-business applications.

Most importantly, this merger will create new opportunities for rural communities that have previously been left behind in the technological revolution. The merger will extend the reach of 4G LTE to over 300 million Americans. This is especially important to many Kentuckians who live in rural communities and are looking to connect to the most advanced wireless network.

It is for the above reasons that the Kentucky ADDs urge the Federal Communication Commission to approve the AT&T and T-Mobile merger.

Sincerely,

KY Council of Area Development Districts

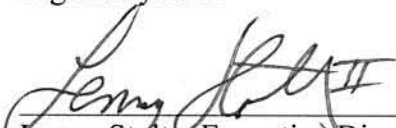
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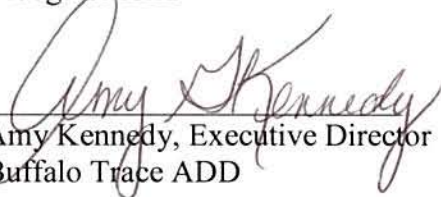
Rodney Kirtley, Executive Director
Barren River ADD



Sandy Runyon, Executive Director
Big Sandy ADD



Lenny Stoltz, Executive Director
Bluegrass ADD



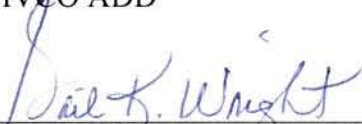
Amy Kennedy, Executive Director
Buffalo Trace ADD



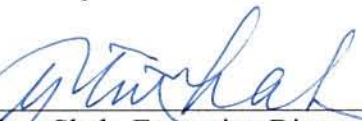
Mike Patrick, Executive Director
Cumberland Valley ADD



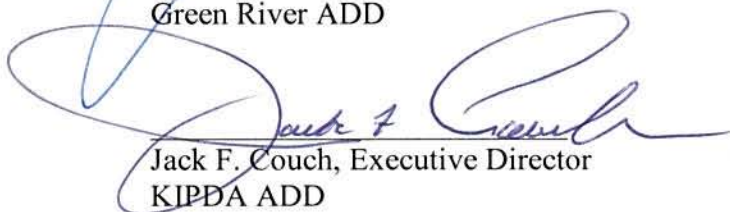
Sherry R. McDavid, Executive Director
FIVCO ADD



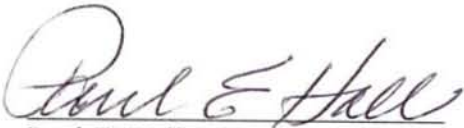
Gail K. Wright, Executive Director
Gateway ADD



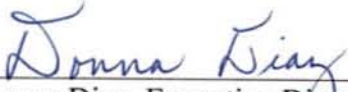
Jiten Shah, Executive Director
Green River ADD



Jack F. Couch, Executive Director
KIPDA ADD



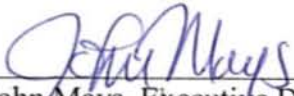
Paul E. Hall, Executive Director
Kentucky River ADD



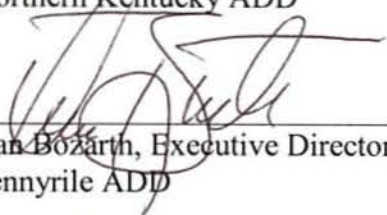
Donna Diaz, Executive Director
Lake Cumberland ADD



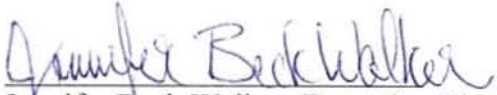
Wendell C. Lawrence, Executive Director
Lincoln Trail ADD



John Mays, Executive Director
Northern Kentucky ADD



Dan Bozarth, Executive Director
Pennyrile ADD



Jennifer Beck Walker, Executive Director
Purchase ADD



B. Russell Harper, Executive Director
KY Council of ADDs